

AGENDA SUMMARY PAGE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF: MAY 2, 2007

DEPARTMENT: OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS
DIRECTOR: DAVID RIGGLEMAN

SUBJECT:

RECOGNITION OF ASIAN / PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:

Submitted at meeting – Copies of Proclamations for Kaminari Taiko, the Japanese American Citizens League of Las Vegas and Mr. Wayne Tanaka

Minutes:

No motion required. A presentation was made.

In honor of Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, COUNCILMAN REESE recognized the achievements and contributions by the Asian and Islander community to the city. To celebrate, a Taiko presentation was made by Las Vegas Kaminari Taiko in the City Hall Plaza, and, this year, special tribute is being given to Japanese Americans who have played a significant role in developing this community.

He noted that the Tomiyasu family farmed the Valley in the early 1900's. Since then, immigrants and native-born Japanese individuals have influenced this city. He recognized and called forward the following individuals for promoting their culture in Las Vegas: WAYNE TANAKA, Long time resident of Las Vegas and Honorary Consul for Japan; OREN IWANAKA, President of the Japanese American Citizens League; JASON SCHUCK, Director of the Japanese American Citizens League; and TERESA TOKUMON and NOEL GARCIA, of Las Vegas Kaminari Taiko. COUNCILMAN REESE presented proclamations declaring May 2007 as Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, recognizing Mr. Wayne Tanaka, Honorary Consul for Japan; recognizing the Japanese American Citizens League of Las Vegas; and recognizing Las Vegas Kaminari Taiko.

MR. TANAKA commented that the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) of Las Vegas, which was founded in 1968, began as a club. The Pacific Islanders also enjoy the amenities it offers. Many of its members work in the industry of travel and tourism. They are all contributing to making Las Vegas a success and to help it grow as a multi-cultural society. Japanese Americans are raising their children to be better Americans in a better America.

MR. SCHUCK and MS. TOKUMON expressed their appreciation for this recognition and stated that they feel special to belong to the JACL.